



## CITY OF SAN JOSÉ, CALIFORNIA

### Building Division Informational Handout

Handout No. 2-1

Updated: 11/02/05

Revised: 8/25/06

### Design Criteria and Codes Currently In Effect

#### **General Design Criteria is as follows :**

1. San Jose is in seismic zone 4.
2. Basic wind speed is 70 mph.
  - \* Most areas of San Jose can be classified as wind exposure category B. However, some areas may meet the criteria for exposure C.
  - \* The design professional is responsible for justifying the exposure selected for the specific area of construction.
3. Soil bearing pressure is based on 1,000 pounds per square foot, unless justified by a soils report.
4. The climate zone is Zone 4.
5. Rainfall design is based on two inches per hour.

#### **The following codes are currently in effect in the City of San Jose as of October 1, 2005:**

On or after October 1, 2005, all buildings or structure shall be erected, constructed, enlarged, altered or repaired in accordance with the new codes.

The new codes as adopted and amended by Chapter 24 of the Municipal Ordinance are:

2001 California Building Code based on the 1997 edition of the UBC

2001 California Plumbing Code, based on 2000 UPC

2001 California Mechanical Code, based on 2000 UMC

2004 California Electric Code based on 2002 NEC

2001 California Code for Building Conservation (Note: Chapter 5 and Appendix 1, 5 & 6 Adopted)

2005 Building Energy Efficiency Standards

#### **Validity of Permit Applications Under Previous Codes**

Applications for building permits made prior to October 1, 2005 can be permitted under the applicable codes in effect at the time of application provided an active plan check application prior to October 1<sup>st</sup> is maintained.

An application for permit is good for 180 days after the date of application.

A permit application can be extended for an additional 180 days.

Permit applications (that have been extended) expire at 360 days after date of initial application.

Note: The City of San Jose has adopted only those portions of the codes referenced in Municipal Ordinance No. 26729, 25839 and 25875, including any amendments by the State of California.

A copy of the Adopting Ordinance can be obtained from the City Clerk's Office. City Hall. 200 East Santa Clara St, San Jose, CA 95113-1905; (408) 535-1260

Additional information can be obtained by visiting our website at [www.sanjoseca.com/building/](http://www.sanjoseca.com/building/) or by calling our Information Inspector's voice mail at (408) 535-3555 and leaving a detailed message. In addition you may visit the Building Division in City Hall at 200 East Santa Clara St, San Jose, CA 95113-1905